



RSVP

Lead With Experience

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) is a federal program charged with leading efforts to expand the use of service and volunteering as key solutions that respond to our nation's most pressing challenges. Our mission is to improve lives, strengthen communities and foster civic engagement, through service and volunteering. RSVP is sponsored locally by the Etowah County Commission, and federally by the Corporation for National & Community Service (CNCS).

In the News

Recent events

Upcoming events

Director's Corner

Every time seasons change, I look forward to what the new season is bringing, but I also miss what was special about the old season. I'm glad it's not raining as much and the temperature is a little cooler, but I do miss the long days we had this summer. It was light when I woke up, and sometimes still light when I went to bed! Differences can be hard to get used to.

One thing that is so special about RSVP is that we

recognize the differences in every volunteer (our seasons!) and try to use those differences in the best way possible. We represent volunteers from ages 55 to 98 who do things as diverse as quilting to preparing tax returns, from tutoring children to delivering meals, from advising on various subjects to assisting food pantries; men and women, veterans, retired professionals, factory workers and homemakers. There is a place for

everyone and everyone has a place. Sometimes it takes a while to find that place, but together we will find it.

RSVP volunteers are like a wonderful garden full of every flower and plant imaginable, where the sun is shining but a nice breeze keeps it from being too hot.

So in case you don't know how highly we think of you and everything you do and value your differences ~ you rock!

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News

We have had a lot going on!

In July RSVP staff visited some of our stations, sponsored a Driving Safety Class in Centre, and we had one of our quarterly workshops (we call these SOD – Seniors Outfitted for Disaster). This workshop was about food safety, and Emily Campbell with the Cooperative Extension Service gave us some really good information. RSVP is also helping with a Backpack Initiative being sponsored by Etowah County

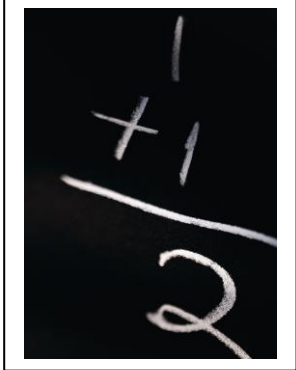
Commissioner Carolyn Parker and NAACP.

In August, we visited more stations, volunteers helped with the Habitat for Humanity Dragon Boat Festival and we worked on our Rx Help program to hopefully publicize it some more. (In the past 3 months our volunteer has helped 19 people with 65 medicines!)

In September, we had our Advisory Council Meeting, a Be Red Cross Ready training

event, attended a conference, a HELP coalition meeting and a new Habitat home dedication. (whew!)

Now it's time to start thinking about tax season! If you would like to volunteer with this program please let me know! This past season we had 25 wonderful volunteers, but unfortunately 1 or 2 of them may not be coming back. It's really not as hard as it sounds!



Success Story

The Summer Enrichment Program helps children from kindergarten through high school every year to keep current with math, reading and computer science – and this year was no exception. Dr. Gertie Lowe says there were 110 students and 35 teachers and volunteers this year.

Not only do these students continue learning and stay sharp for the coming school

year, but they get to go places, do things and meet people they might otherwise have never had the opportunity to do. This year they were fortunate to be able to visit the Civil Rights Museum & 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, tour the Etowah County Courthouse and listen to a mock trial in Judge Ogletree’s courtroom. They also visited the Library once a week for story time &

took swimming lessons in the City Pool! Wouldn’t it be wonderful if all of our children had this opportunity?

Winner of our on-time time sheets for this quarter is Ms. Rebecca Tillery! Ms. Tillery volunteers at the North East Etowah Community Center and has been an RSVP volunteer since 2005, with 2,033 hours on record. Congratulations Ms. Tillery!

"If you want happiness ...

For an hour – take a nap

For a day – go fishing

For a month – get married

For a year – inherit a fortune

For a lifetime –

help someone else."

Chinese Proverb

Volunteer Opportunities

- **Habitat for Humanity** – volunteers are needed on Wednesdays & Saturdays to help build houses! If you know how to paint, caulk, hammer or install dry wall call 256-543-1898 for details!
- **Gadsden Public Library** – the Friends of the Library need volunteers to help in the bookstore, selling

books or moving collections.

- **Humane Society** – volunteers are needed to help with receptionist duties, answering the phone & greeting visitors (you can visit the animals while you’re there!).
- **Family Success Center** – FSC will be providing a gift

wrapping service in the Gadsden Mall in December as a fundraiser. If you have incredible wrapping skills, call 256-547-6888 to schedule a time for you to help!

- **For these & other volunteer opportunities, call RSVP @ 256-549-8147!**

STATISTICS

New volunteers – 14

Total volunteers – 266

Total stations – 51

Volunteer Hours – 10,957.5

Value of Hours – \$193,947.75

(According to federal guidelines, the value of a volunteer’s time is \$17.70 per hour)

Volunteer Recognition

Betty McElroy is a very special volunteer – one every organization would desire. Most of her career was spent teaching and she loves children, which is probably one of the

reasons she volunteers to prevent child abuse through the Safe & Successful program at the Family Success Center. Betty has been involved in this program for 20 years, but she

doesn’t stop there. She also volunteers with Habitat for Humanity, the Humane Society, Second Chance & her church – not bad for a young 88 year old!

Submitted by Joan Henry, Prevention Coordinator

Upcoming Events

Sept. 28 – Oct. 19 – Calligraphy class @ the Cultural Arts Center. Call 256-543-2787 ext. 22 to register.

October 6 – Etowah Pregnancy Testing Center will host the annual Life Chain @ Moragne Park from 1 – 3 PM. Call 256-442-6101 for more details.

October 17 – RSVP's quarterly workshop will be in Room 205, Etowah County Courthouse @ 10 AM. Trudy Lowe will be speaking on staying mentally alert as we age, and playing brain games! Call RSVP @ 256-549-8147 to register.

October 19 – Riverview Regional Medical Center is sponsoring the North East Alabama Heart Walk in conjunction with the American Heart Assoc. Activities begin @ 8 AM in the parking lot behind the YMCA.

October 31 – Halloween!

November 3 – daylight savings time ends, set your clocks back 1 hour!

November 7 – RSVP will sponsor an AARP Driver's Safety Class @ the Etowah County Courthouse from 9 – 3:30. Call 256-549-8147 to register.

November 11 – Veterans Day, Etowah County Courthouse will be closed.

November 28– Thanksgiving CommUnity Thanksgiving Celebration @ Convention Hall, 10:30 – 2:00. Everyone is welcome to come eat or take a plate to go. For more info call 256-546-4357 or 211.

December 25 – Christmas Day, Etowah County Courthouse will be closed the 23rd, 24th & 25th.



Thanksgiving was never meant to be limited to a single day.

Puzzle

S I L L I G E I B O D E E R A N N O D
 W A L T O N S P E Y T O N P L A C E T
 A F N G I X A T V H O D D C O U P L E
 L L E A R M E R E H W E S L E T S O Y
 A I R A M E M U R P H Y B R O W N V D
 L P M E R E E Y L M I A M I V I C E O
 J P A E T G L N Y S Y M N K S T Y B O
 E E D V F N S F H L E C O O O P E O D
 T R A I L I E R I O E R N D N J Y A Y
 S E B T Y T M C L R R R C E S N A T D
 O D O I I H I L L G R N A A G Q A K W
 N I U G N G T A B A O I E D N R U C O
 S H T U G I D S I E C M N T L E E A H
 M W Y F N L O S L A N I E T E I E M D
 P A O S U N O I L L O C D R I D K R E
 O R U R N O G E I I E S A E P N U R G
 E D I S N O R I E C H I P S M Y T A D
 H Y N A P M O C S E E R H T E O L I M
 O O R A G N A K N I A T P A C Y W E N

- Alice
- Ben Casey
- Beverly Hillbillies
- Chips
- Cannon
- Captain Kangaroo
- Dobie Gillis
- Donna Reed
- Dr. Kildare
- Emergency
- Flipper
- Flying Nun
- Fugitive
- Gomer Pyle
- Good Times
- Green Acres
- Green Hornet
- Howdy Doody
- I Spy
- Ironside
- Jetsons
- Kojak
- L. A. Law
- Lassie
- Love Boat
- Mad About You
- Maude
- Medical Center
- Miami Vice

- Mod Squad
- Moonlighting
- Murphy Brown
- Odd Couple
- Peyton Place
- Rawhide
- Rifleman
- Rin Tin Tin
- Soap
- St. Elsewhere
- Taxi
- Three's Company
- Waltons

RSVP Volunteer Stations

	AARP – COOSA VALLEY CHAPTER #3337	ETOWAH COUNTY COURTHOUSE	NORTHEAST ETOWAH COMMUNITY CENTER
	ALABAMA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE	ETOWAH COUNTY DEPT. OF HUMAN RESOURCES	PILOT CLUB
<i>"Do whatever comes your way to do as well as you can. Think as little as possible about yourself and as much as possible about other people and about things that are interesting. Put a good deal of thought into the happiness that you are able to give."</i>	AMERICAN RED CROSS – ETOWAH & CHEROKEE CHAPTERS	ETOWAH COUNTY PREGNANCY TESTING CENTER	RIVERVIEW REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
<i>~ Theodore Roosevelt</i>	BIG BROTHERS/BIG SISTERS	ETOWAH HISTORICAL SOCIETY	ROC-1 ST BAPTIST CHURCH OF CENTRE
	CATHOLIC CENTER OF CONCERN	EVEN START	RSVP ADVIROSY BOARD
	CENTRAL-CARVER FOUNDATION, INC.	EXTENDED FAMILY	RSVP COMMUNITY SERVICE VOLUNTEERS
	CHEROKEE COUNTY HEALTH & REHAB.	FAMILY SUCCESS CENTER	RSVP DISASTER VOLUNTEERS
	CHEROKEE COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM	FIRST CALL FOR HELP	RX HELP
	CHEROKEE MEDICAL CENTER	FRIENDLY NURSING HOME VISITORS	SALVATION ARMY
	CIRCUIT CLERK'S OFFICE OF ETOWAH COUNTY	GADSDEN MUSEUM OF ART	SENIOR NUTRITION CENTERS
	CITY OF GADSDEN	GADSDEN PUBLIC LIBRARY	SUMMER ENRICHMENT PROGRAM
	COMMUNITY ACTION	GADSDEN QUILTERS GUILD	SWAT
	COUNCIL ON AGING	GADSDEN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER	TAX COUNSELING PROGRAM
	CULTURAL ARTS CENTER	HABITAT FOR HUMANITY	TELE-CHEK
	EL SENOR CLUB	HEAD START	THE CHAMBER
	ETOWAH BAPTIST MISSION CENTER	MANNA	UNITED WAY OF ETOWAH COUNTY
		MOUNTAIN VIEW HOSPITAL	VETERANS AFFAIRS

VOLUNTEER BIRTHDAYS

Sarah Trammell	10/01	Marynette Watson	10/31	Irene Mashburn	12/02
Bulah Lawrence	10/02	Isabell Woods	11/01	Sue Young	12/04
Jean Dunnaway	10/03	LaVerne Williams	11/02	Kathy Blattel	12/05
Betty Woodward	10/03	Ray St. John	11/04	Kenneth Mayo	12/07
Fred Ward	10/06	Janice McClure	11/05	Eloise Turk	12/07
Jeanne Chambers	10/08	Karyle Harper	11/06	Betty Overall	12/08
Mildred Marsh	10/08	Elsie Hawkins	11/07	Judy Smith	12/08
Mary Jane Smith	10/08	Paula Beck	11/10	Rebecca Tinker	12/08
Millie Mostella	10/09	Sherre McGinnis	11/11	Ellen Phillips	12/12
Mary Curry	10/10	Gloria Ansley	11/13	Ann Ratliff	12/14
Myrtle Cushing	10/10	Juanita Elrod	11/13	Nina Tenerani	12/17
Mary Ruth Davis	10/11	Kenneth Epperson	11/13	David Divine, Sr.	12/18
Eva Fulmer	10/11	Carla Justice	11/16	Evelyn Westcott	12/21
Ann Williams	10/14	Peggy Ann Moll	11/16	Sandra Coffey	12/25
Larry McNair	10/16	Dianne Higgins	11/17	Sarah Hood	12/26
Doris Fleming	10/17	Jackie Hamilton	11/19	Steve Scharfenberg	12/26
Joe Hall	10/17	Carole Slaton	11/20	Virginia Williams	12/27
Dianne Williams	10/18	Amy Chester	11/22	Ray Cruz	12/28
Bonnie Childs	10/22	Alma Alford	11/23	Linda Ellison	12/28
Lena Faye Jones	10/24	Treasia Spelce	11/24	Pat Hill	12/28
Linda Rakestraw	10/26	Millie Cartrett	11/26	Nettie Robinson	12/28
Sandra Baker	10/27	Jeanette Foster	11/26	Helen Jones	12/29
Doris Collier	10/29	Jeanette Boggs	11/28	Flora Alvis	12/30
Nick Garrard	10/30	Rebecca Hilleke	11/30	Gary Hilburn	12/30
Joyce Mallett	10/30	Portia Foster	12/01	Peggy Thomas	12/30



"Middle age is when you are faced with two temptations and you choose the one that will get you home by 9 o'clock."

~ Ronald Reagan

RSVP

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256-549-8147

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tpondick@etowahcounty.org

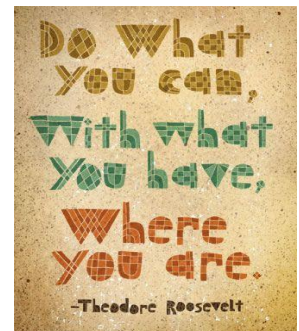
GETTING THINGS DONE.

RSVP Staff

Director – Traci Pondick

Van Driver/Volunteer
Coordinator – Faye
Russell

Secretary/Bookkeeper –
Samantha Harrison



RSVP Advisory Council

Chairperson – Jane
Brittain

Vice Chairperson –
Joyce Farrell

Treasurer – Deborah
Lankford

Secretary– Wanda Neal

Mille Cartrett

Lisa Dobbins

Thelma Edgar

Jennifer Harold

Jerre McNeal

Joe Neal

Jean Pettis

Nettie Robinson

Craig Scott

Doralynn Thomas

CiCi Whiteside

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.etowahcounty.org

Please shop at these local businesses & say "Thank You!" for supporting RSVP!

Friend us on Facebook!



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/327258517069/>

Follow us on Twitter!



[Twitter.com/etowahrsvp](https://twitter.com/etowahrsvp)

Advance Auto Parts

Attalla Florist

Belk's

Boomer's Spa

The Choice

Discount Pest Control

Downtown Deli

Etowah Foot Spec.

Family Savings Credit

First Equity Home Loan

Flipside Café

Gadsden Eye Assoc.

Generations Bank

Gold's Gym

Hick's Shoes

Hindsman Davis

Hokes Bluff Drugs

Illegally Blonde

Johnson's Food

Keystone Bank

Linda Barrett-Vaughn

Live, Laugh & Love

Master Cuts Salon

McClellan Chiropractic

Once Written

Pack's Nursery

Papa John's

Physician's Home Health Wells Fargo Advisors

Pruett's BBQ

Red Lobster

Regions Bank

Regis Hair Salon

RSVP Advisory

Shear Class Salon

Sports Mania

Stevie B's Pizza

Sutton Bridge Exxon

Taming of the Ewe

Things of Desire

Tre Ragazzi's

Uncle Sam's BBQ